## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an immunogenic  $A\beta$  fragment linked to an immunoglobulin carrier molecule to form a conjugate and an adjuvant, wherein the adjuvant enhances an immune response comprising antibodies to the  $A\beta$  fragment.
- 2. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the  $A\beta$  fragment is from the N-terminal half of  $A\beta$ .
- 3. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein the A $\beta$  fragment is A $\beta$ 1-5.
- 4. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 3, wherein A $\beta$ 1-5 consists of the first five N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 5. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein the A $\beta$  fragment is A $\beta$ 1-6.
- 6. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 5, wherein A $\beta$ 1-6 consists of the first six N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 7. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein the A $\beta$  fragment is A $\beta$ 1-12.
- 8. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7, wherein A $\beta$ 1-12 consists of the first 12 N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 9. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the adjuvant comprises alum.
- 10. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the adjuvant comprises monophosphoryl lipid (MPL).

- 11. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the adjuvant comprises Quillaja Saponaria Molina (QS21).
- 12. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the adjuvant comprises GM-CSF.
- 13. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the adjuvant comprises M-CSF.
- 14. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, which comprises greater than 10  $\mu$ g of the A $\beta$  fragment.
- 15. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, which comprises at least 20  $\mu$ g of the A $\beta$  fragment.
- 16. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, which comprises at least 50  $\mu g$  of the A $\beta$  fragment.
- 17. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, which comprises at least 100  $\mu$ g of the A $\beta$  fragment.
- 18. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant is selected from the group consisting of alum, monophosphoryl lipid (MPL), Quillaja Saponaria Molina (QS21), GM-CSF, and M-CSF.
- 19. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, which comprises greater than 10  $\mu g$  of the A $\beta$  fragment.
- 20. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, which comprises at least 20  $\mu g$  of the A $\beta$  fragment.
- 21. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, which comprises at least 50  $\mu$ g of the A $\beta$  fragment.

- The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, which comprises at least  $100 \mu g$  of the A $\beta$  fragment.
- 23. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, wherein the A $\beta$  fragment is from the N-terminal half of A $\beta$ .
- 24. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein the A $\beta$  fragment is A $\beta$ 1-5.
- 25. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein A $\beta$ 1-5 consists of the first five N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 26. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein the A $\beta$  fragment is A $\beta$ 1-6.
- 27. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 26, wherein A $\beta$ 1-6 consists of the first six N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 28. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein the A $\beta$  fragment is A $\beta$ 1-12.
- 29. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 28, wherein A $\beta$ 1-12 consists of the first 12 N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.